

PATENT TO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Nandkumar RANGNEKAR et al. :

Serial No::\\10/740,925 : Examiner: Patricia Lynn Engle

Patent Art Unit: 3612

Filed: December 22, 2003 : Allowed: January 28, 2005

For: VEHICLE DOOR HINGE ASSEMBLY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH PETITION FOR ACCEPTANCE THEREOF

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

Moreover, Applicants hereby petition that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered into the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Enclosed is a check for \$180.00 to cover the petition fee of 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

I hereby certify that each item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was first cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of

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Serial No.: 10/740,925 Filed: December 22, 2003

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this information disclosure statement. A copy of European Search Report of the

corresponding European Application No. 04258025.8 is attached hereto.

* * *

German Patent No. 1078901 appears to disclose a goose neck hinge for a vehicle that

is mounted to a body portion of the vehicle.. The European Search Report indicated that the

columns 1-5, claims 1-8 and Figures 1-5 were relevant.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 4-353183 appears to disclose a goose

neck hinge for a vehicle that is mounted to a body portion of the vehicle. The European

Search Report indicated that the abstract and Figures 1-13 were relevant. An English abstract

of this publication is provided to better understand this reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated:

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/740,925			
Filing Date	December 22, 2003			
First Named Inventor	Nandkumar RANGNEKAR			
Group Art Unit	3612			
Examiner Name	Patricia Lynn Engle			
Attorney Docket Number	NT-US035184			

			U.S. PATENT	OCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		US- 4,713,862	12-22-1987	Kinaga et al.	column 6, line 63 - column 11, line 56; claims 1-6; figures 1-19	
		US- 2002/0073507-A1	06-20-2002	Presley	paragraph 0018- 0026; claim 1; figures 3-6	
		US- 2003/0097731-A1	05-29-2003	Nania	paragraph 0012-0030; paragraph 0040-0049; paragraphs 0060, 0063 claims 1, 2, 19; figures 1-8	
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		PATENT DOCU	MENIS		
Cito	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or		T ⁶
No.1	Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	DE-1078901-B	03-31-1960	Anthony et al.	columns 1-5; claims 1-8; figures 1-5	No
	JP-4-353183-A	12-08-1992	Ninomiya et al.	abstract; figures 1-13	No
	Cite No.¹	Cite No.1 Foreign Patent Document Country Code3 - Number4 - Kind Code5 (if known) DE-1078901-B	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if MM-DD-YYYY	Cite No.1 Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document DE-1078901-B 03-31-1960 Anthony et al.	Foreign Patent Document Publication Date Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document Passages or Relevant Passages or R

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.